Vol. II. Numb. 19.

The EXAMINER.

From Thursday *April* 3, to Thursday *April* 10. 1712.

IT hath been very juſtly obſerved by a grave Author, That *Men, tho' they are deceived in Generalities, yet are they not ſo eaſily beguiled in Particulars; for, when they come to examine things, they find the Deceit.* Thus it was ſaid in the groſs, That a certain Great Perſon's inimitable Actions, had been repaid with horrible Ingratitude. There is yet a *Party* that will never be convinced, who, becauſe they delight in oppoſing Truth, cry up his Services as unparalleled, and exclaim againſt the ill Uſage they pretend he hath met with. But when Things come to be *Examined*, theſe Complaints may be truly ſaid to Vaniſh into *Nothing*. An obſcure Author, who trys to make himſelf Noted, by aiming to Copy after a great Original, hath lately endeavoured to write upon *Nothing*: He hath omitted in the *Latin* what did not ſerve for his purpoſe: *Cui Nihil eſt ſatis, huic etiam Nihil eſt Turpe.* He very modeſtly aſſirms, *That a certain General was turned out of all his Places for* Nothing, *and another put into his Room who had* Nothing *at all in him.* That our Readers may ſee how Impartial this *New-ſprung-up Writer* is, in his Diſpenſations, we will enumerate certain Particulars, which hath very conſcientiouſly been valued by him at *Nothing*.

An Eſtimate of certain Virtues in the Poſſeſſion of the preſent General, *valued at* Nothing.

The high Birth, ſtedfaſt Principles, Love of the *National* Church, and the undoubted Courage of the Duke of *O——d: Nothing*.

His early diſlike of *Popery* and *French Power*, exemplified in all his Actions, for which he was, by Name, excepted out of the late K—g *J*——'s General Pardon: *Nothing*.

The Duke's Behaviour in the *Iriſh* War, his Valour ſhown at the Battle of the *Boyn*, his Addreſs in taking in, *Dublin, Kilkenny*, &c. *Nothing*.

His Bravery in *Flanders*, particularly at the Battle of *Landen*, where his Grace was taken Priſoner; his diſtributing vaſt Sums of Money, to ſubſiſt thoſe that were taken with him: *Nothing*.

His Grace's Conduct, Generoſity, Magnanimity, Juſtice, Diſintereſtedneſs, Mercy, Affability, Zeal for the Proteſtant Religion, ſo exemplary ſhown in his Government of *Ireland*: *Nothing*.

His Profitable, as well as Glorious, Succeſs at *Vigo*, whereby immenſe Riches were brought into the Kingdom; whereas the War in *Flanders* hath perpetually carried all our Money out: *Nothing*.

The Duke's ſupporting the Glory of the *Engliſh* Nation abroad, at the Expence of a Noble Patrimony, preferring the Reputation of his Country to his own Advantage and Intereſt: *Nothing*.

With theſe Imperfections this General may, by the help of *good Fortune*, accompliſh things as ſurprizing and extraordinary, as hath been his former Actions; that is, if the Intereſt of the Nation do yet require a Continuance of the War. I apprehend no Misfortune but *Treachery*, from which we muſt beg of Heaven to preſerve him. We will now purſue our Deſign, and deliver

An Eſtimate of what Benefits were poſſeſſed by the late General, *likewiſe valued at* Nothing.

The Title of Duke, together with the moſt Noble Order of the Garter: *Nothing*.

Plenipotentiary to the *States-General*; General in *Britain* and *Flanders*, amounting to Seventeen thouſand Pounds a Year: *Nothing*.

Maſter of the *Ordnance*, together with Travelling Charges as Maſter, Four thouſand eight hundred Pounds *per Annum: Nothing*.

Five thouſand Pounds a Year from the *Poſt-Office*, for ever: *Nothing*.

As Colonel of the Firſt Regiment of Guards, Two thouſand pounds a Year, *Nothing*.

From the *States*, as General of their Forces, from the Foreign Troops in *Engliſh* Pay, at 6 *d. per.* Pound as *per* Warrant; and for keeping a Table Six and twenty thouſand pounds a Year: *Nothing*.

A *Bank* Bill from the *States* of 50,000 Pounds after the Battle of *Blenheim*; Profits on Exchange of Money, together with the Value of 50,000 Pounds given, in one Year by the Emperor; beſides what was Preſented by the K—g of *Pruſſia*, the Elector of *Hanover*, and other Courts: *Nothing*.

Safe-Guards, *Contributions*, a Privy-Seal for K—g *W*——'s Field-Plate, Money given for making Officers, and by others in Employment, impoſſible to be Computed: *Nothing*.

The Eſtate at *Woodſtock*, the Building of *Blenheim*, a Palace larger than any Monarchs in *Europe*; invaluable: *Nothing*.

Gains

Gains by *Bread* and *Bread-Waggons*, Sixty three thouſand three hundred and nineteen Pounds: *Nothing*.

Received one hundred thouſand Pounds, by the Annual Contingencies of 10,000 Pounds, *per Ann. Nothing*.

Received by two and a half *per. Cent.* from the Payment of Troops, Four hundred ſixty thouſand Sixty two Pounds: *Nothing*.

His Lady's Preferments.

As Keeper of the *Parks*, Lady Privy-Purſe, Miſtreſs of the Robes, Groom of the *Stole*, Seven thouſand five hundred Pounds *per Annum*, *Nothing*.

His Daughters, and his Sons-in-Laws Preferments.

Ladies of the Bed Chamber, *Secretary* of *State*, *Cofferer*, Great Maſter of the *Wardrobe* for Life, at the leaſt Fourteeen thouſand Pounds, *per Ann. Nothing*.

There is not one Example, in either Ancient or Modern Hiſtory, of a General ſo profuſely Rewarded before: If we were to recount the particular Advantages accruing to *England* in Balance of theſe Benefits, that are ſo much derided, we ſhould, perhaps, with much more *Equity*, find they amount to *Nothing*. We might put the Queſtion very ſhort, and find as ſhort an Anſwer; What have we got by all our Victories? *Nothing*. What hath the National Church gained by the Glorious Battle of *Hockſtet?* Truly *Nothing*. Upon the General's deſerting her Cauſe, did not the *Whigs* and *Sectaries*, undermine her Intereſt, and diſcountenance her Worſhip? They openly Ridicul'd her Ceremonies, Defiled her Altars, and Spurned at her *Clergy*, as *Nothing*. What ſignifies the *Name* of Victory, when the *Profits* are enjoyed by others? like Honours, or rich Ornaments, brought to Cloath a dying Perſon. Alas! he cannot be recovered from his Danger, by Titles, or glittering Apparel: Paſſing *Lines*, winning Battles and Towns, hath been the *Bird-Call* to draw us into the Snare, where we have ſpent more than our preſent Value, given our *Trade* to the *Allies*, ruined our *Credit*, and left our ſelves almoſt worſe than *Nothing*.

Wiſe *Machiavel* tells us, *That it is very poſſible to acquire Dominion* (tho' that is not exactly our Caſe, for I know none that we have gained) *and not Strength*; *and he that does increaſe his Dominions, and yet grows not in Strength, muſt needs go to wreck. They cannot grow ſtrong that grow poor in the Wars, although they prove Victorious*; *becauſe their Conqueſts coſt them more than they get by them.* It is the Perfection of all wiſe Governments, to know when to make Peace and War; Men employ'd in ſuch weighty Matters, ſhould never be directed by *Caprice* or Self-Intereſt. What a new and lamentable Caſe it is, to have War prolonged, till the People are exhauſted by their very *Victories*, and unable to bear the Expence of getting more! There is then nothing left, but to purſue thoſe Meaſures that can beſt procure *Peace*; nor ought they to regard the Exclamations or Obſtacles their *Allies* endeavour to bring againſt it, becauſe it is uſual amongſt Confederates, to diſapprove what is not advanced by themſelves. One gains by the continuance of the War, another loſes, yet he that gaineth, being not able of himſelf to carry it on, ſhall quarrel with the Treaty of Peace begun by his Ally, in hopes this Day to break it off, that, on the Morrow, he may enter into a new one of his own propoſing; by which means, it is probable, he may transfer all the Advantages to himſelf. Therefore, let not him who is in poſſeſſion of the Power depart from it, either for Threats or Murmurings, leſt the Opportunity be loſt, and he be never able to recover it again; for *Peace* being ſuch an univerſal Good, and bringing along with it ſo many Benefits, when it is once made, thoſe who were moſt inveterate againſt it, will be glad to enjoy the Fruits.

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